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eral essays by distinguished hands which make up this volume. The best feet are foremost, that of course. The most encouraging views are here set forth, for Empire is now a fetich in the great little island which bears such a load of the burden of Atlas. Cheerful, hopeful, interesting, these pages are a record of what should be, a commentary on what India is.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

EUROPE

British Rainfall, 1910. By Hugh Robert Mill, Director of the British Rainfall Organization. The fiftieth annual volume, 1910. 328 pp. Maps and illustrations. Edward Stanford, London.

We heartily congratulate Dr. Mill on the appearance of the fiftieth volume of the annual report of the British Rainfall Organization. This unique body of observers, organized originally by the late Mr. George J. Symons, and then numbering but a few hundreds, now numbers nearly 5,000. Five of the observers whose records appear in the fiftieth volume also contributed to the first volume. In the present issue the Director makes his first Report to the Trustees, who, as already noted in the *Bulletin*, have now general charge of the property and work of the Organization, Dr. Mill being the Director and being actively responsible for all the details and all the results. Another change is the re-arrangement of the stations by river basins, the counties being retained as the units. A special illustrated article explains the new arrangement. The cartographic treatment of the rainfall records has also been carried farther than in previous volumes. We note, also, a very practical article on "The Rain Gauge in Theory and Practice," in which the following points are taken up, *e. g.*, the ideal rain gauge and why it is unrealizable, requirements of a real rain gauge, the placing of the gauge, the precision of rainfall observations. In the account of "Heavy Falls on Rainfall Days" there are some noteworthy photographs of hail which fell on June 9, 1910. One of these shows hail on a lawn an hour after the fall. Another shows hail in a village street three hours after the fall. A third gives a view of a mass of compacted hailstones in a ditch after four days. A fourth represents this same mass lifted out of the ditch and set upright on a foot-bridge. We note, with special satisfaction, Dr. Mill's continued attention to the amount of rain which falls in individual cyclones, which he charts by "cyclonic units" with the track of the depression in each case shown on the maps.

R. DEC. WARD.

Sketches of English Life and Character. By Mary E. Mitford. 320 pp. 16 reproductions in colors from the paintings of Stanhope Forbes, A.R.A. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1910. \$1.75 net.

A companion volume to "Tales of Irish Life and Character," and equally well illustrated. In her text, Miss Mitford has well succeeded in presenting the atmosphere of "Old England."

D.

Tales of Irish Life and Character. By Mrs. S. C. Hall. 323 pp. 16 illustrations reproduced from the paintings of Erskine Nicol, R.S.A. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1910. \$1.75 net.

The eleven sketches are highly entertaining and the reproductions in colors from the pictures by Erskine Nicol add greatly to the value of the text. It is